

CLAIMS

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4 What is claimed is:

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1. In a data acquisition system, a hand-held data processing assembly,

8 comprising:

(a) a base unit of size to be held in one hand during data acquisition;

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and

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(b) indicia reader module means, assembled with said base unit, containing a reflected light indicia reader for non-contact essentially instantaneous reading of bar codes or the like disposed in spaced non-contacting relationship to the assembly.

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2. A data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said base unit comprises a light source for generating a light beam, the hand-held data processing assembly being orientable for directing a light beam from said light source toward the bar code or the like to be read.

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3. A data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said indicia reader module means further comprises processing means for controlling the functioning of the hand-held data processing assembly.

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4. A data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said base unit further comprises a battery for providing electrical power to the hand-held data processing assembly.

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5. The data acquisition system according to claim 1, wherein said indicia reader module means further comprises a radio apparatus for wireless communication with components of the data acquisition system which are located remotely from the hand-held data processing assembly.

6. The data acquisition system according to claim 5, wherein said indicia reader module means further comprises an external antenna having a free end and wherein the reflected light indicia reader of said indicia reader module means further comprises a charge coupled device reader assembly capable of reading optical indicia located beyond the free end of the antenna.

7. The data acquisition system according to claim 5, wherein the reflected light indicia reader of said indicia reader module means further comprises a pair of laser diode sources and a single rotor for simultaneously directing light generated by said pair of laser diodes toward optical indicia to be read.

8. The data acquisition system according to claim 6, wherein the reflected light indicia reader of said indicia reader module means further comprises a pair of laser sources, each laser source coupled with optics apparatus, for essentially instantaneously illuminating optical indicia to be read by the charge coupled device reader assembly.

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A3

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C1Add
B3